

COVID-19 and Monkeypox

Situational Report in the ASEAN+3 Region

— ASEAN BioDiaspora Virtual Center (ABVC)

COVID-19: Highlights and Situation Overview

Global Update

- **Worldwide**, there have been over 591 million cases and over 6 million deaths attributed to COVID-19.
- **US CDC:** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention doesn't have any plans to loosen limitations anytime soon, despite the fact that on average, 500 fatalities associated with COVID are recorded each day in the U.S.⁸ Within the upcoming week, the CDC is anticipated to release a revised version of its Covid guidelines.⁸ The existing recommendation to mask, test, or isolate does not alter much, according to a draft paper that NBC News saw.⁸ Before it is anticipated to be made public next week, the document may alter.⁸ [\[Full Article\]](#)
- **North Korea:** For the seventh day running, there were no fever cases, according to official media on Friday.⁹ Due to a lack of testing tools, North Korea refers to "fever" patients rather than "COVID" patients.⁹ The nation initially reported a COVID epidemic in May, and since then, fever illnesses and fatalities have been documented.⁹ However, there is much skepticism over the numbers, particularly the death toll.⁹ The number of individuals who tested positive for COVID has not been confirmed by Pyongyang.⁹ However, according to official media, 4.77 million fever sufferers have totally recovered and 74 have passed away since late April, the lowest death rate in the world at 0.002 percent.⁹ According to experts, North Korea's healthcare system is among the worst in the world, and there are no vaccinations or medications for treating COVID-19 there.⁹ [\[Full Article\]](#)
- A new study entitled "*Profiling post-COVID syndrome across different variants of SARS-CoV-2*" seeks to advance the understanding of long COVID.¹⁰ Working with data collected in a health study app by personalized nutrition company ZOE, researchers from King's College London in the U.K. attempt to unravel the tangle of symptoms and long-term effects of what is collectively known as "long COVID".¹⁰ The study finds that long COVID can be grouped into three symptom-cluster types: neurological symptoms, respiratory symptoms, and systemic/inflammatory and abdominal symptoms.¹⁰ In the study, the researchers analyzed data for 336,652 individuals collected by ZOE's COVID Symptom Study.¹⁰ Of this group, 1,459 reported post-COVID symptoms defined as more than 12 weeks after acute COVID-19 infection. The researchers were also able to begin identifying the symptom clusters associated with SARS-CoV-2 variants and with vaccinations.¹⁰ The findings of the study also suggest that individuals struggling with long COVID, who experience severe shortness of breath, hoarse voice, loss of smell, fatigue, delirium, anosmia, headache, and fever were more likely to have prolonged and have severe symptoms.¹⁰ [\[Full Study\]](#)

*Note: The study, which has not yet been peer-reviewed, has been published on the pre-print server [medRxiv](#).

Regional Update

- **Philippines:** Through shipments of medical supplies and logistical packages, the US government has bolstered the nation's COVID-19 response.⁷ The TaqPath COVID testing reagents for the Philippine Genome Center, which enable 10,000 additional tests, and 18,000 fast antigen and other test kits were donated, according to the Department of Health (DOH).⁷ The DOH reported that other personal protection equipment was also sent to the Philippines.⁷ [\[Full Article\]](#)
- **Thailand:** Although it has not yet been identified in Thailand, the COVID-19 Omicron sub-variant BA.4.6 is being actively watched by the Centre for Medical Genomics at Thailand's Ramathibodi Hospital since it spreads more quickly than BA.4 and BA.5. After

being found to have rapidly spread in the states of Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska and to be responsible for 4.1 percent of COVID-19 infections as of July 30th, the center stated that BA.4.6 has been classified by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as a variant of concern. Additionally, it stated that 5,681 samples of the BA.4.6 sub-variant had their genomes sequenced over the previous three months, and the results had been uploaded to the Global Initiative on Sharing Avian Influenza Data website (GISAID). The Spike R346T mutation in the BA.4.6 sub-variant differs from that in BA.4 alone. [\[Full Article\]](#)

- **China:** Hainan, an island province dependent on tourism, locked down more areas on August 8 (Monday), after seeing few cases over the past two years. The island in the South China Sea, which recorded just two local symptomatic COVID-19 cases last year, has reported more than 1,400 domestically transmitted infections this month, including 982 symptomatic ones. The increase in cases comes amid a pick-up in interest in tourism after China slightly eased curbs aimed at domestic travel. Meanwhile, authorities in Macao instructed residents to conduct at least two days of COVID-19 tests after a person who travelled from the Chinese special administrative region to neighboring city Zhuhai was found to have been infected with the virus. The move comes days after Macao started to unwind stringent anti-COVID rules, including the resumption of travel to Zhuhai without quarantine from August 3. The Macao government said in a statement on August 7 (Sunday) that all of the city's residents should take rapid antigen tests on Sunday and Monday and upload the results to a government website.
- **Macao (SAR):** Following the discovery of a COVID-19 infection in a traveler from the Chinese special administrative region to the neighboring city Zhuhai, authorities in Macao gave citizens instructions to do COVID-19 testing for at least two days.¹² The action comes only days after Macao began to relax strict anti-COVID regulations, including allowing travel to Zhuhai again starting on August 3 without being subject to quarantine.¹² [\[Full Article\]](#)

Vaccine Update

- **Indonesia:** According to Minister of State-owned Enterprises Erick Thohir, the domestically produced COVID-19 vaccine is nearly finished and is awaiting emergency use authorization (EUA) before becoming on sale to the general public.¹¹ Earlier, the third phase of the clinical trial for the locally produced COVID-19 vaccine had been finished, according to state-owned pharmaceutical business PT Bio Farma (Persero).¹¹ The domestically produced COVID-19 vaccine will allow Indonesia to produce its own COVID-19 vaccine and is meant to be a celebration of Indonesia's independence anniversary by the state-owned businesses.¹¹ [\[Full Article\]](#)
- **Philippines:** In an effort to increase immunization and make vaccinations more available to kids and teenagers who haven't finished their main series or gotten boosted against COVID-19, the Department of Health (DOH) is slated to choose the public schools that will serve as jabbing locations. DOH officer-in-charge Maria Rosario Vergeire stated in a media briefing on Friday that health authorities will meet with local governments to develop plans on the anticipated school-based immunization in advance of the start of actual sessions on August 22. She pointed out that Vice President and Education Secretary Sara Duterte had made just this one request in order to avoid delaying the start of regular courses in several schools this month. [\[Full Article\]](#)

Travel Update

- **Hong Kong's** government said on August 8 (Monday) that it would shorten the COVID-19 hotel quarantine period for all arrivals to three days from seven days, taking another step to gradually ease strict pandemic rules effective August 12 (Friday). Arrivals will need to self-monitor for a further four days, during which they will be forbidden to enter such premises as restaurants and bars. People in quarantine will be issued a red code on a government-mandated app. This will change to a yellow code once they leave quarantine, signifying they may not enter crowded premises.

Cases and Deaths as of 08 August 2022

- As of 08 August 2022 (2PM, GMT+8), worldwide, there were **591,124,247** confirmed cases, including **6,453,158** deaths. Globally, Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was **1.1%**.
- **74,776,370 confirmed cases** of COVID-19 have been reported in the **ASEAN +3** countries including **33,636,192 cases** in the ASEAN region and **41,140,178 cases** in the PLUS THREE countries.
- The Case Fatality Rate in the **ASEAN +3** region is range between **0.1 to 3.2%**.
- There have been no tests reported in the last 14 days in the **ASEAN** Region.

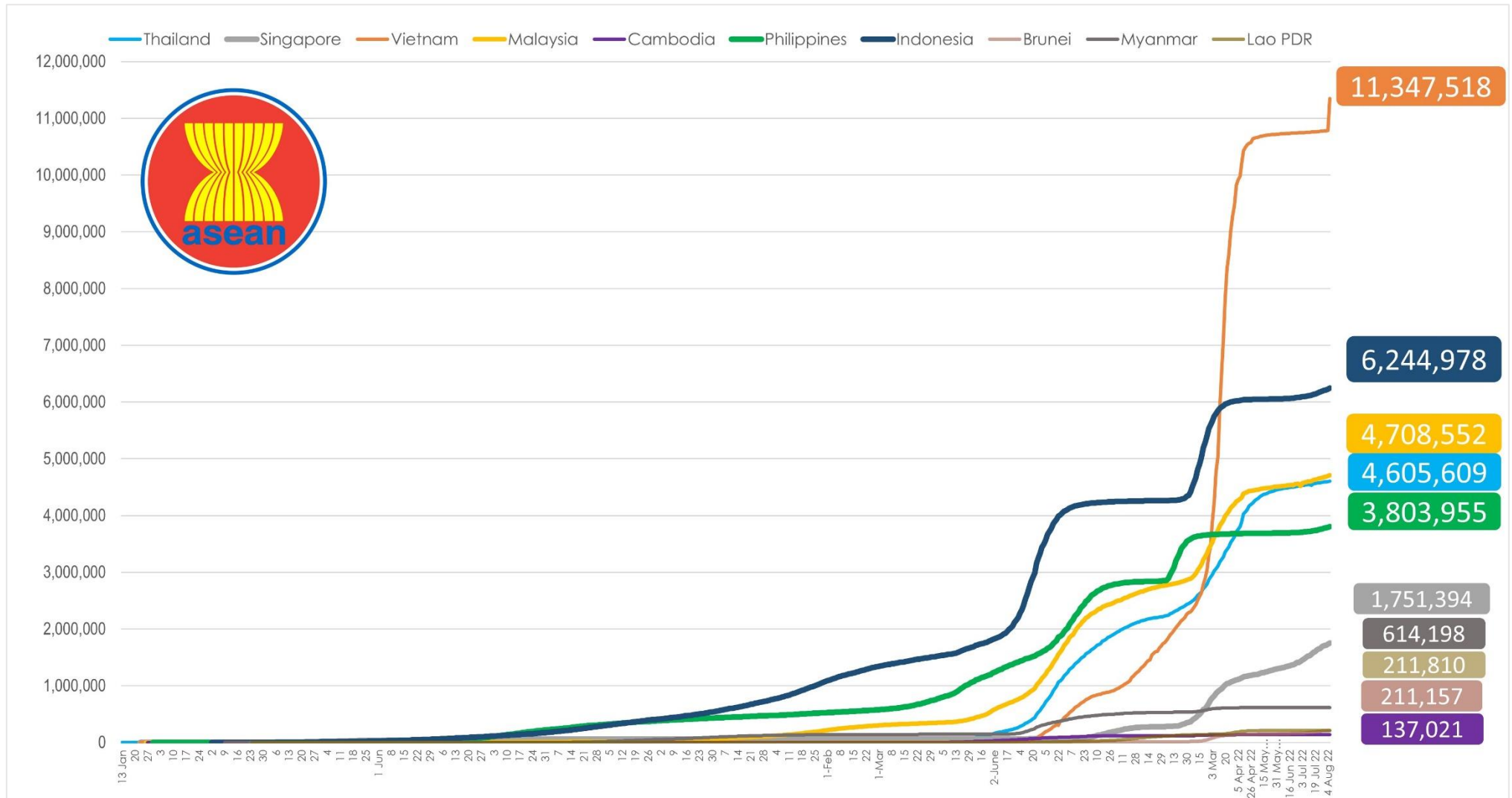
REGION	COUNTRY	FIRST CONFIRMED CASE(S)	LATEST REPORT ON CONFIRMED CASE(S)	TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES	NEW CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	NEW DEATHS	CUMULATIVE CASES/ 100,000	CUMULATIVE VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE FULLY VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE BOOSTERED	FULLY VACCINATED/ 100
ASEAN REGION	Brunei	10 Mar 20	07-Aug-22	211,157	-	225	-	48,734	445,849	436,027	307,711	97.9
	Cambodia	27 Jan 20	07-Aug-22	137,021	44	3,056	-	831	15,115,433	14,427,169	9,655,663	87.0
	Indonesia	02 Mar 20	07-Aug-22	6,244,978	4,279	157,095	13	2,308	202,563,389	170,143,379	56,449,470	62.2
	Lao PDR	24 Mar 20	07-Aug-22	211,810	99	757	-	2,954	5,881,972	5,213,334		70.2
	Malaysia	25 Jan 20	07-Aug-22	4,708,552	2,728	36,026	6	14,737	28,077,297	27,463,534	16,579,158	81.8
	Myanmar	23 Mar 20	07-Aug-22	614,198	8	19,434	-	1,136	34,777,314	27,545,329	2,227,351	51.2
	Philippines	30 Jan 20	07-Aug-22	3,803,955	4,621	60,807	18	3,518	76,635,114	72,054,011	15,844,691	63.3
	Singapore	23 Jan 20	07-Aug-22	1,751,394	5,633	1,536	2	30,707	5,022,441	5,000,501	4,258,592	91.7
	Thailand	13 Jan 20	07-Aug-22	4,605,609	2,250	31,599	35	6,615	56,865,606	53,232,206	31,028,434	74.4
Vietnam	23 Jan 20	07-Aug-22	11,347,518	155,475	43,094	-	11,764	87,717,272	81,040,637	63,619,909	83.2	
ASEAN COUNTRIES				33,636,192	175,137	353,629	74	123,305	513,101,687	456,556,127	199,970,979	
ASEAN PLUS THREE	South Korea	20-Jan-20	07-Aug-22	20,489,128	105,507	25,263	27	39,624	45,089,887	44,653,945	39,450,933	86.2
	Japan	16-Jan-20	07-Aug-22	14,295,270	206,495	33,368	145	11,322	103,933,861	102,531,607	94,333,665	82.3
	China	31-Dec-19	07-Aug-22	6,355,780	26,706	24,001	47	39,291	1,327,360,021	1,291,950,677	821,632,717	86.3
	PLUS THREE COUNTRIES				41,140,178	338,708	82,632	219	90,236	1,476,383,769	1,439,136,229	955,417,315
ASEAN +3				74,776,370	513,845	436,261	293	213,541	1,989,485,456	1,895,692,356	1,155,388,294	

- **516,347,877 confirmed cases** of COVID-19 have been reported in **5 continents** (other than ASEAN +3 countries):

CONTINENT	TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES	NEW CASES	TOTAL DEATHS	NEW DEATHS	CUMULATIVE CASES/ 100,000	CUMULATIVE VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE FULLY VACCINATED	CUMULATIVE BOOSTERED
AFRICA	12,791,378	333	257,970	1	243,709	371,828,473	293,270,277	34,745,668
AMERICAS	175,016,237	18,188	2,831,845	40	1,137,162	813,336,854	716,650,914	454,674,503
ASIA PACIFIC	83,510,913	430,232	742,979	400	426,845	1,431,685,744	1,312,658,159	255,821,566
EUROPE	222,939,862	90,891	1,948,283	174	1,927,324	562,052,871	534,031,167	338,338,001
MIDDLE EAST	22,089,487	9,313	235,820	66	206,555	142,878,263	128,218,349	56,378,739
TOTAL	516,347,877	548,957	6,016,897	681	3,941,596	3,321,782,205	2,984,828,866	1,139,958,477

COVID-19 Epi curve among ASEAN Countries:

From January 1, 2021 to August 7, 2022

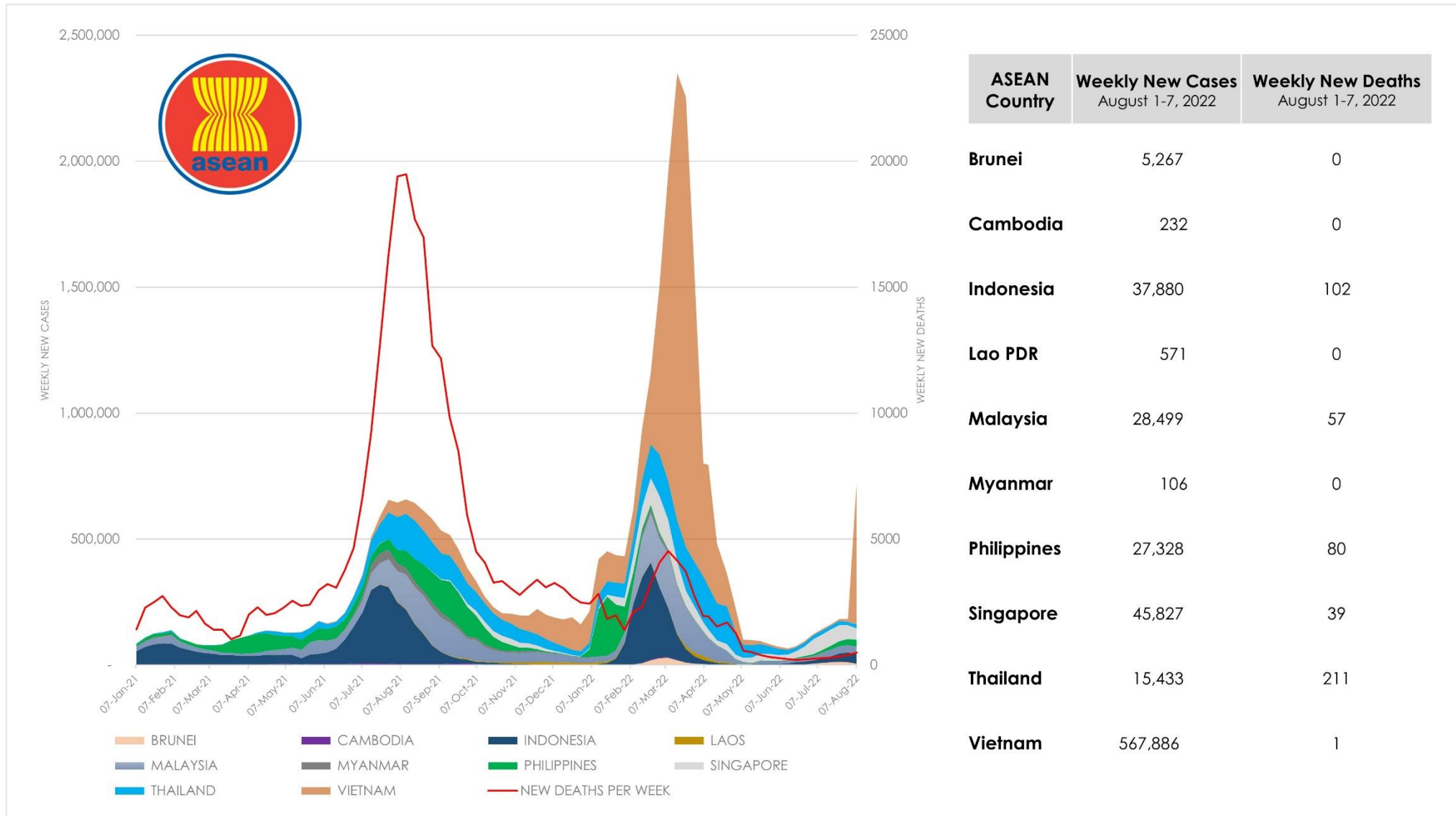


Cumulative cases of COVID-19 in the ASEAN Region as of August 7, 2022 (Report generated by ASEAN Biodiaspora Virtual Center)

*Data is from Bluedot Insights, cases may differ from how data is reported in countries and other authorities. Data may be subject to retrospective correction by national authorities.

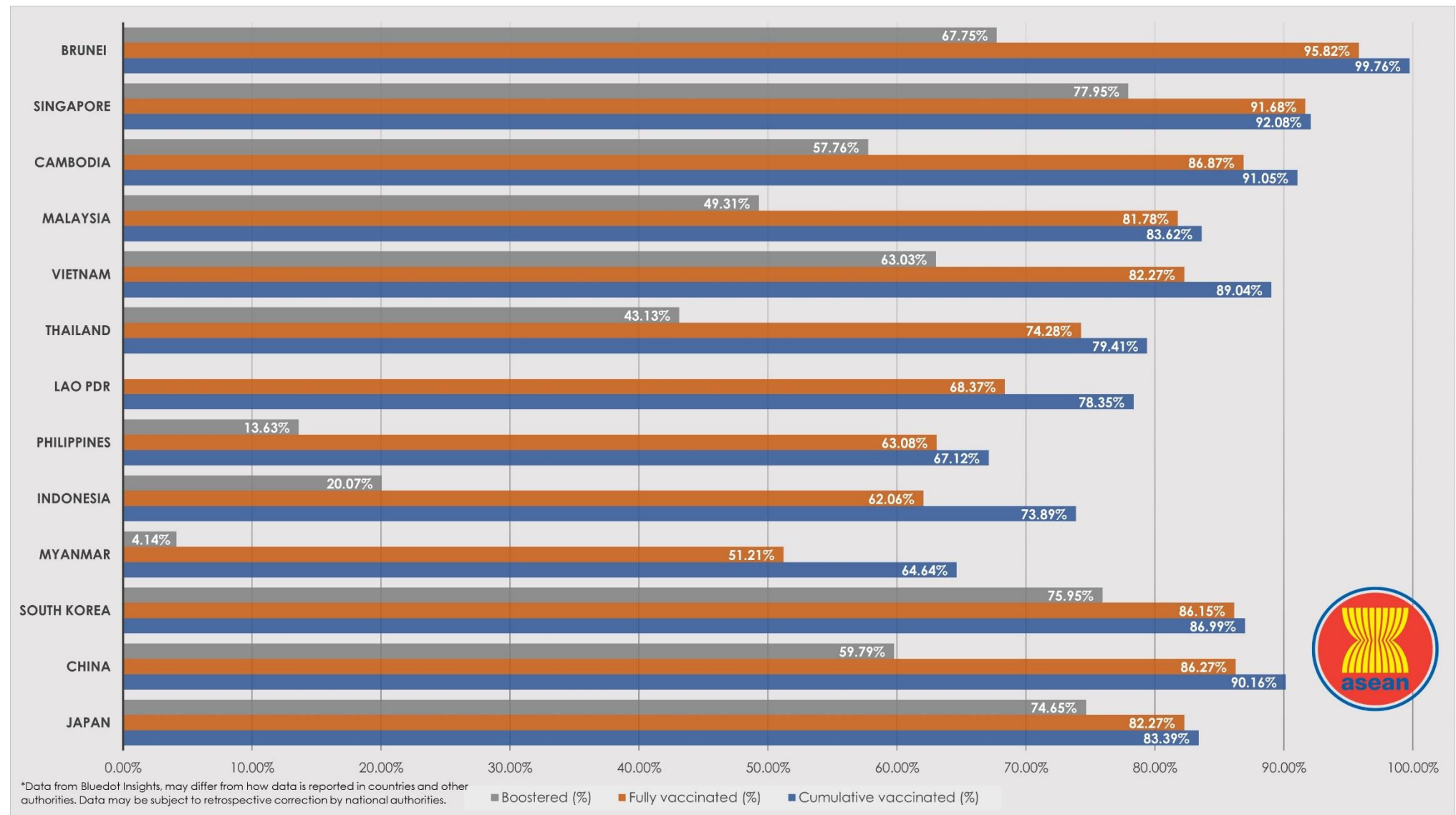
COVID-19 Weekly New Cases and Weekly New Deaths

From January 1, 2021 to August 7, 2022




COVID-19 Vaccination Status

as of 07 August 2022



COVID-19 Outlook Assessment

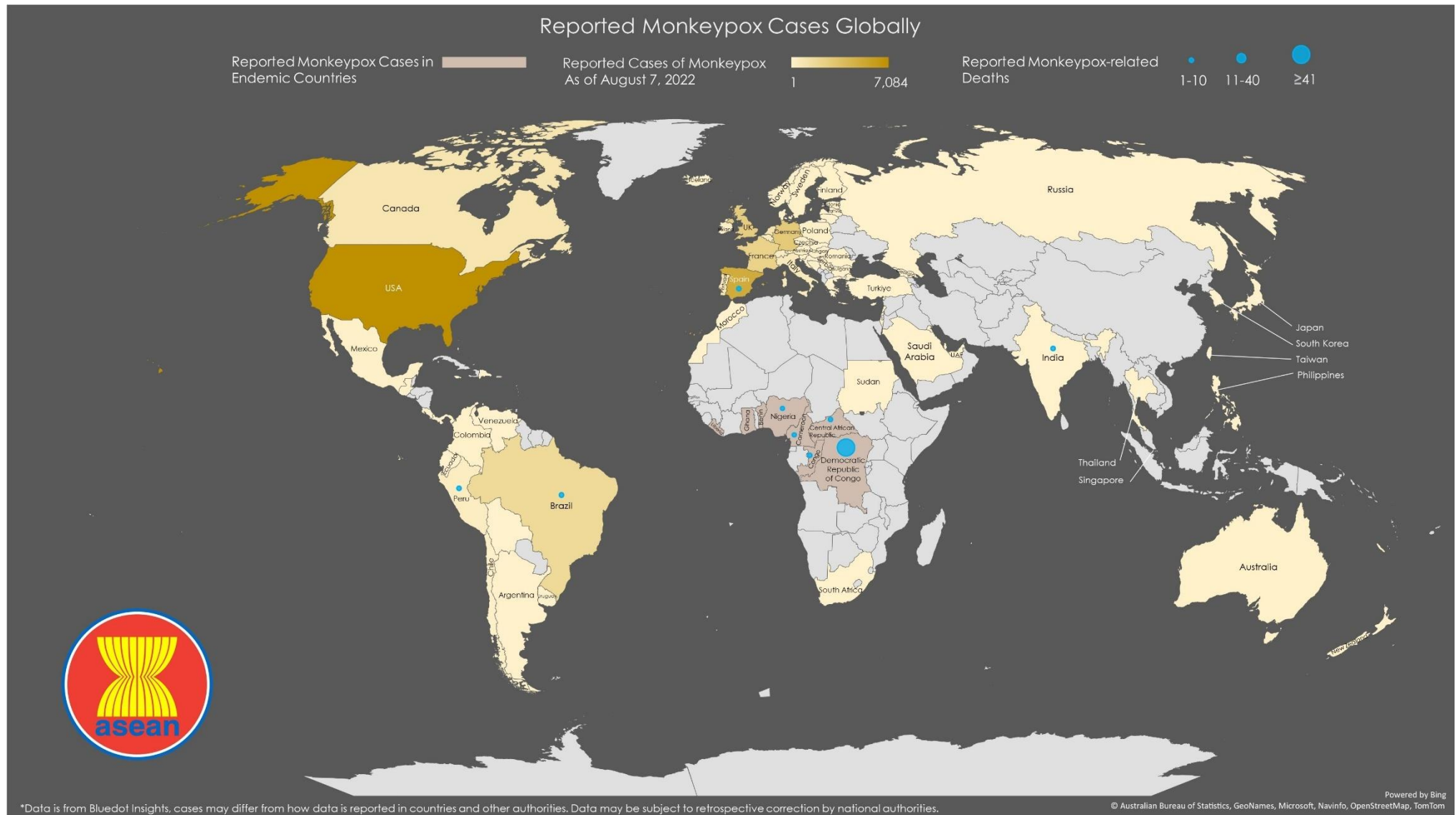
as of 05 August 2022

 ASEAN MEMBER STATE	REQUIREMENT						
	At least 80% of the high-risk population has been vaccinated with at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.	At least 65% of the total population has a level of immunity to COVID-19; either recovered from COVID-19 or have been vaccinated with at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.		Case levels are generally low (a 7-day rolling average number of daily new cases that is <10 cases per 100,000, with each day's past-14-day test positivity is consistently <5%).		Government Policy on containment and health (strictness and comprehensiveness in COVID-19 related government policies)	
	Population vaccinated/ day (7-day average)	% of Total population fully vaccinated / boosted	Population vaccinated/ day (7-day average)	Daily cases/ 100,000	Test positivity last 14 days	Containment and health index score - Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker (OxCGRT)	Change over the past 30 days
Brunei	0%/day	≥90.0/69.1	Unknown	173.65	Unknown	31.0/100	0.0
Cambodia	0%/day	≥90.0/58.2	Unknown	0.19	Unknown	31.5/100	-1.8
Indonesia	0%/day	65.2/20.6	Unknown	1.99	Unknown	54.2/100	+3.6
Lao PDR	0%/day	75.1/ND	Unknown	1.03	Unknown	61.6/100	0.0
Malaysia	0%/day	84.3/49.4	0.01%/day	10.67	Unknown	51.8/100	0.0
Myanmar	0%/day	52.1/4.1	Unknown	0.02	Unknown	69.1/100	0.0
Philippines	0%/day	69.7/13.9	Unknown	3.55	Unknown	55.4/100	0.0
Singapore	0%/day	88.7/77.9	0%/day	117.10	Unknown	58.9/100	0.0
Thailand	0%/day	77.3/43.3	0.02%/day	3.04	Unknown	31.5/100	0.0
Vietnam	Unknown	87.4/65.3	Unknown	61.29	Unknown	43.5/100	0.0
Japan	0%/day	81.0/75.7	0%/day	169.43	Unknown	42.9/100	0.0
South Korea	0%/day	86.5/76.1	0%/day	188.18	Unknown	38.1/100	0.0
China	Unknown	≥90.0/56.0	Unknown	0.011	Unknown	84.5/100	0.0

All of the countries have achieved the estimated high-risk population fully vaccinated of ≥90.0% except China with 34.6%.

Monkeypox Cases Reported Globally

as of August 7, 2022



Monkeypox: Highlights and Situation Overview

- As of 08 August 2022 (2PM, GMT+8), worldwide, there were **29,024** confirmed cases, including **71** deaths. Globally, Case Fatality Rate (CFR) was **0.24%**.
- 26 confirmed cases** of Monkeypox have been reported in the **ASEAN+3** region composed of **20 cases** in the ASEAN region and **6 cases** in the PLUS THREE countries, with CFR of **0%**.
 - Singapore** 15 cases
 - Thailand** 4 cases
 - Japan** 3 cases
 - Taiwan** 2 cases
 - Philippines** 1 case
 - South Korea** 1 case
- 28,998 confirmed cases** of COVID-19 have been reported in other **5 regions** (other than ASEAN +3 countries):

Top 5 countries with most monkeypox cases globally

Region	Country	Cases	Deaths	Case Fatality Rate
Americas	USA	7,084	-	0.00%
Europe	Spain	4,979	2	0.04%
Europe	Germany	2,887	-	0.00%
Europe	United Kingdom	2,672	-	0.00%
Europe	France	2,241	-	0.00%

Monkeypox cases per region

REGION	TOTAL CONFIRMED CASES SINCE JANUARY 1, 2022	NEW CASES SINCE THE PREVIOUS REPORT	TOTAL DEATHS	CASE FATALITY RATE
AFRICA*	1,699	0	66	3.88%
AMERICAS	10,338	767	2	0.02%
ASIA PACIFIC	67	1	1	1.49%
EUROPE	16,706	552	2	0.01%
MIDDLE EAST	188	0	-	0.00%
TOTAL	28,998	1,322	71	0.24%

Global update

- Canada:** The government of Manitoba is broadening who can receive the monkeypox vaccination.⁵ The province emphasized that infections have mostly been recorded among members of the homosexual, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men (gbMSM) community in a press release on August 5.⁵ The province said that if these people also fulfill at least one of the requirements, they are now qualified to get the vaccination.⁵ For anyone who may have been exposed to the virus, the monkeypox vaccination has been accessible in Manitoba since June.⁵ There have been no verified instances of monkeypox in the province up to this point.⁵ [\[Full Article\]](#)

- **India:** With India having nine laboratory-confirmed cases of monkeypox and experts cautioning that testing for this disease is low owing to social prejudices that go with it, the country is amping up its testing capacity.⁴ [[Full Article](#)]

New genomic sequencing data from the CSIR Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology (CSIR-IGIB) in India have emphasized early data indicating that there are two distinct monkeypox lineages circulating outside of the endemic region at this time (lineage B.1 and lineage A.2). A recent preprint article has extended our current understanding of the monkeypox genomic sequences classified as lineage A.2 available on GISAID. The recent article describes the A.2 lineages which contains 16 distinct genetic variations not found in other lineages. The article includes nine genomes from six unique clinical isolates from the United States of America (USA), Thailand, and now, India. The earliest sequence is dated July 2021 in the USA, with a travel history to Nigeria. More recent sequences from India had travel history to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) while the genome sequence from Thailand had travel history to Nigeria. Together, this would indicate the potential for the A.2 lineage to have sustained previously undetected human-to-human transmission in multiple countries. These results are based on a few samples and further genomic sequences and analysis are required. To date, most sequences obtained from affected individuals outside of the endemic region have been found to be of the B.1 lineage, which has been linked to the large outbreak in Europe. Of note, BlueDot analysts have previously estimated the potential outbreak in Nigeria to be substantially larger than reported based on exported case data and travel volumes. At this time there is not enough evidence to indicate if either the A.2 or B.1 lineage viruses are more transmissible, severe, or virulent than the other.

- **South Africa:** Contrary to other regions of the globe, homosexual men are not disproportionately affected by monkeypox epidemics in Africa, according to specialists from the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Africa CDC on Thursday, August 4.⁶ 78 countries have reported outbreaks of the virus, predominantly in Europe.⁶ According to the WHO, males who have sex with other men account for 98% of infections outside of the endemic African nations.⁶ The pattern of transmission, however, is distinct in Africa, where outbreaks have been reported on several occasions since the 1970s, according to the experts.⁶ [[Full Article](#)]

Regional update

- **Thailand:** The fourth confirmed monkeypox case in Thailand was detected on August 5 in a 22-year-old Thai lady, marking the first instance of the virus in a female to be identified in the nation, according to the Department of Disease Control (DDC).² [[Full Article](#)]
- **Singapore:** A contact of a guy whose illness was confirmed earlier this week was one of two new cases of monkeypox that Singapore announced on Friday, August 5.¹ The Ministry of Health (MOH) posted an update on its website stating that the 54-year-old male had no recent travel history.¹ The two latest cases boost the nation's overall number of illnesses since June to 15 cases. Ten of the 15 cases are local, while five are imported.¹ [[Full Article](#)]
- **Japan:** Japan's third case of monkeypox was verified by health officials on August 5.³ According to health ministry representatives, a guy in his 20s who works at Tokyo's US Yokota Air Base was diagnosed with the illness.³ He reportedly went to a facility on the base on Thursday after experiencing symptoms including a headache, bodily discomfort, and rashes.³ [[Full Article](#)]

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